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## HMGI PROTEINS IN CANCER AND OBESITY

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### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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This application is a continuation-in-part of application serial no. 08/679,529, filed 12 July 1996.

#### Statement of Rights to Inventions

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#### Made Under Federally-Sponsored Research and Development

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Part of the work performed during development of this invention utilized United States Government funds. The United States Government has certain rights in this invention: NIH grant no. GM38731, HD30498, and 1K11CA01498.

#### Field of the Invention

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The present invention pertains to a method for detecting HMGI-C or HMGI(Y) as a diagnostic marker for benign or malignant tumors using a probe for a sample from a patient that recognizes HMGI-C or HMGI(Y). The method comprises the steps of (a) contacting HMGI-C or HMGI(Y) from a sample from a patient with a probe which binds to HMGI-C or HMGI(Y); and (b) analyzing for HMGI-C or HMGI(Y) by detecting levels of the probe bound to the HMGI-C or HMGI(Y). The presence of HMGI-C or HMGI(Y) in the sample is positive for a